



ELECTION 2020

Call:
1-888-API-VOTE
(274-8683)

Bilingual assistance is available in English, Mandarin (普通话/普通话), Cantonese (廣東話/广东话), Korean (한국어), Vietnamese (Tiếng Việt), Tagalog, Urdu (اردو), Hindi (हिन्दी), and Bengali (বাংলা).



Are You Ready to Vote: MASSACHUSETTS?

Updated Thursday, October 15, 2020

Election Day is Tuesday, November 3, 2020

When voting, you have the right to:

- Bring someone of your choice to help you vote in the voting booth if you have some difficulty with English.
- Receive language assistance from the government in certain places.
- Vote without being intimidated or discriminated against by others.
 - Intimidation or discrimination at the polls may look like harassing you or denying you the right to vote because of your accent or challenging your right to vote under the false stereotype that you are not a citizen because of your race.

Who can vote in Massachusetts

- You are a citizen of the United States; and
- You are 18 years old; and
- You are not currently incarcerated by reason of a felony conviction.

You must be registered to vote in order to cast a ballot.

The voter registration deadline is Saturday, October 24, 2020.

Key Dates

- Saturday, October 17 - Friday, October 30 – Early voting period
- Tuesday, October 20 – Recommended that voters apply for absentee ballots before this day to ensure enough time to receive and return their ballot.
- Saturday, October 24 – Deadline to register to vote.
- Tuesday November 3 – Election Day! Vote in person at your polling place or make sure your Vote by Mail/Absentee ballot is postmarked by this day.

Voter Registration: Are you registered?

- Have you registered to vote before?
 - Yes
 - Confirm you are still registered where you live now: <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/VoterRegistrationSearch/MyVoterRegStatus.aspx>
 - If you are no longer registered, re-register today: <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/OVR/>
 - If you are not registered at the correct address, update your registration: <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/OVR/>
 - No
 - Register Today!
 - Online: <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/OVR/>
 - Requirements: Driver's license or State ID issued by the Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles
 - Also Available in: Khmer, Chinese, and Spanish

- Mail:
 - You may download a voter registration form. The form must be completed, signed, and delivered to your [local election official](#). Voter registration forms submitted by mail must be postmarked no later than the voter registration deadline:
 - [English](#)
 - [Spanish](#)
 - [Chinese](#)
 - [Khmer](#)
 - [Cape Verdean Creole](#)
 - [Haitian Creole](#)
 - [Portuguese](#)
 - [Russian](#)
 - [Vietnamese](#)
 - Using the National Mail Voter Registration Form:
 - <https://www.eac.gov/voters/national-mail-voter-registration-form>
 - The National Mail Voter Registration Form can be used to register U.S. citizens to vote, to update registration information due to a change of name, make a change of address, or to register with a political party.
 - You must follow the state-specific instructions listed for your state. They begin on page 3 of the form and are listed alphabetically by state. After filling out this form, you must sign your name where indicated and send it to your state or local election office for processing. Be sure you mail it in an envelope with the proper amount of postage.
 - Download the Form in 15 Languages:
 - [National Mail Voter Registration Form – English](#)
 - [طلب تسجيل الناخب – Arabic](#)
 - [জাতীয় ডাক ভোটার নিবন্ধন ফর্ম – Bengali](#)
 - [国家邮件选民登记表 – Chinese](#)
 - [Inscription sur les listes électorales – French](#)
 - [Aplikasyon Enskripsyon Elektè – Haitian Creole](#)
 - [राष्ट्रीय डक मतदाता पंजीकरण फॉर्म – Hindi](#)
 - [国立メール有権者登録フォーム – Japanese](#)
 - [ទម្រង់បែបបទនៃការចុះឈ្មោះអ្នកបោះឆ្នោតជាតិ – Khmer](#)
 - [전국 우편 유권자 등록 양식 – Korean](#)
 - [Solicitação para cadastro de eleitor – Portuguese](#)
 - [Заявка на регистрацию избирателя – Russian](#)
 - [Formulario nacional de inscripción de votantes – Spanish](#)
 - [National Mail Form ng Pagpaparehistro ng Botante – Tagalog](#)
 - [Mẫu đăng ký quốc gia Thư cử tri – Vietnamese](#)
- Make sure you have the necessary documentation to register.

Vote by Mail (VBM)

VBM/Absentee ballot is available to all voters for all elections in 2020. You do not need an excuse to vote by mail this year.

- Did you request a VBM/Absentee ballot?
 - Yes
 - Track your VBM/Absentee ballot here:
 - <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/wheredoivotema/track/trackmyballot.aspx>

- No
 - If you would like to request a VBM/Absentee ballot, there may still be time to do so.
 - VBM/Absentee ballot request deadline is Wednesday, October 28. To ensure timely delivery of your ballot, it is recommended that you submit your application for a November ballot no later than Tuesday, October 20.
 - You must be a registered Massachusetts voter.
 - Complete a VBM/Absentee ballot application.
 - Online: <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/VoterRegistrationSearch/preface.aspx>
 - Download, print, and fill paper form: <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/elepdf/2020-Vote-by-Mail-Application.pdf>
 - Deliver your application to your [local election office](#) by mail, hand-delivery, email, or fax, or submit your application through the online portal.
 - [VBM/Absentee ballot applications are available](#) in English, Spanish, Chinese, Khmer, and Vietnamese.
- How can I return my VBM/Absentee Ballot?
 - Instructions are included with the VBM/Absentee ballot. Complete your VBM/Absentee ballot by following them fully and carefully.
 - VBM/Absentee ballots can be mailed or hand-delivered.
 - If you'd like to drop off your VBM/Absentee ballot,
 - Deliver the completed VBM/Absentee ballot to the local election official at your city or town hall. Find contact information for local election officials at www.sec.state.ma.us/ele or by calling 1-800-462-VOTE (8683).
 - Drop it in an official ballot return drop box. Contact your [local election office](#) for the location of any secure drop box they have provided for ballot return.
 - Deliver to any early voting location during early voting hours.
 - If you plan to use U.S. Postal Service to mail back your VBM/Absentee ballot,
 - The U.S. Postal Service recommends submitting this application no later than Tuesday, October 20 to ensure the timely delivery of your ballot.
 - Ballots must be postmarked by Tuesday, November 3 and delivered to your local election office.
 - Track your VBM/Absentee ballot here: www.TrackMyBallotMA.com
 - Devise a plan of action if you do not receive the ballot or do not receive it in time.

In Person Voting

- If you'd like to vote early:
 - Early voting is available by mail and in person to all registered voters. No excuse is required.
 - In person early voting will be from Saturday, October 17- Friday, October 30.
 - Early voting schedules and locations for each city and town are posted at www.MassEarlyVote.com.
- If you plan to vote on Election Day:
 - Where to vote: <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/wheredoivotema/bal/MyElectionInfo.aspx>
 - You may be asked to show identification when you check-in at your polling place for any of the following reasons:
 - You are voting for the first time in Massachusetts in a federal election;
 - You are an inactive voter;
 - You are casting a provisional or challenged ballot;
 - The poll worker has a reasonable suspicion that leads them to request identification.
 - Acceptable identification must include your name and the address at which you are registered to vote. Examples of acceptable identification include: a driver's license, state-issued ID card, recent utility bill, rent receipt, lease, a copy of a voter registration affidavit, or any other printed identification which contains the voter's name and address.

- If you are voting for the first time in a federal election in Massachusetts after registering to vote by mail, you may be required to show identification under federal law. It is recommended that you include a copy of your identification with your mail-in voter registration form; if you choose not to do so, you may be asked for identification when you go to your polling place on Election Day. If you are unable to present identification when you check-in, you may cast a provisional ballot and return later with identification. If you do not return with acceptable identification by close of polls, your ballot cannot be counted.
- You may also be asked to show identification if you are on the list of inactive voters or if a poll worker has reasonable cause to request it. If you are not able to present identification in such a situation, you must still be permitted to vote; however, your ballot must be challenged. This means that your name and address, the name and address of the challenger, and the reason for the challenge must be written on your ballot. Your ballot will be cast normally and will only be re-examined in the case of a recount, court order, or audit.
- Know Your Rights: Provisional Ballots
 - If your registration is unable to be verified at the polling place, you may still cast a provisional ballot. A poll worker will instruct you to complete a provisional ballot affirmation, upon which you may provide details about where and when you registered to vote. You will also be asked to show identification.

Language Assistance

You have the right to language assistance during voting.

- Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act requires certain jurisdictions to provide in-language voting materials in areas with a significant number of limited English proficient voters. In Massachusetts, Quincy City and Malden City must provide materials in Chinese and Lowell City in Khmer.
- Under Section 208 of the Voting Rights Act you can bring your own interpreter/or translator to the polls, as long as they are not your employer or an agent of your union.
- **TIP: If you need language assistance, ask for help and find a person willing to help!**
- Check your state and local laws for any additional language assistance requirements.

For more information, visit:

<https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/eleidx.htm>
www.advancingjustice-aaajc.org/election2020

If you have any questions about voting, no matter how big or small,
 call us at [1-888-API-VOTE \(1-888-274-8683\)](tel:1-888-API-VOTE) for help in

English, Mandarin (普通話), Cantonese (廣東話), Korean (한국어), Vietnamese (tiếng Việt), Tagalog, Urdu (اردو), Hindi (हिंदी), and Bengali/Bangla (বাংলা). We are available to provide assistance leading up to, on, and after Election Day.